IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented). One-piece fuse insert consisting of a flat part punched from sheet metal, particularly zinc sheet metal, particularly a flat plug, the contacts of which are connected with one another by means of a connection piece that forms a fusible conductor,

wherein at least one segment (5) of the connection piece (4) is pressed flat in such a manner that its thickness is reduced by a predetermined dimension as compared with the original thickness of the sheet metal.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): Method for producing a one-piece fuse insert, ~~particularly a fuse insert according to claim 1,~~

said one-piece fuse insert comprising a flat part punched from sheet metal, particularly zinc sheet metal, particularly a flat plug, the contacts of which are connected with one another by means of a connection piece that forms a fusible conductor,

wherein at least one segment (5) of the connection piece (4) is pressed flat in such a manner that its thickness is reduced by a predetermined dimension as compared with the original thickness

of the sheet metal,

comprising the steps of

transporting ~~in which~~ a strip of sheet metal, particularly zinc sheet metal, ~~is transported~~ lengthwise through machining tools, with which the contours of the fuse insert are worked out of the strip, which fuse insert consists of contacts and a connection piece that connects the contacts, and

~~wherein~~

stamping the connection piece (4) ~~is stamped~~ and ~~made~~ making the connection piece thin, to a predetermined thickness.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): Method according to claim 2,

comprising ~~wherein~~ stamping at least a certain partial segment (5) of the connection piece (4) ~~is stamped~~ and ~~made~~ making the connection piece thin, to a predetermined thickness.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): Method according to claim 2,

comprising removing ~~wherein~~ the material excess of the connection piece that forms during stamping to make it thin ~~is removed~~ from the connection piece (4) by means of cutting it away.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): Device for implementing the method according to claim 2, comprising

punching and pressing tools oriented in a row, one after the other, in a machining unit, through which the strip being

transported step by step is passed, and in which all of the machining of the sheet-metal strip can be carried out in a punch stroke.

Claim 6. (New): The one-piece fuse insert of claim 1, further comprising

a protective coating of tin or silver that is maintained on the fuse insert after the cross-section of the connection piece is reduced.

Claim 7. (New): The method of claim 2,

wherein a protective coating of tin or silver is maintained on the fuse insert after the cross-section of the connection piece is reduced.